



MINUTES OF THE MILLVILLE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
April 26, 2022 @ 7:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order:

Mayor Ron Belinko called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the **Pledge of Allegiance**. **Present:** Council Members Sharon Brienza, Barbara Ryer, Robert Wisgirda, Pete Michel, Town Solicitor Seth Thompson, Town Engineer Andrew Lyons, Town Manager Debbie Botchie, Finance Director Lisa Wynn, Code & Building Officer Eric Evans, Town Clerk Wendy Mardini.

2. Citizens' Privilege: None

3. New Business:

A. Public Hearing Notice - Secretary Robert Wisgirda: Notice of the following public hearing was posted in the legal section of the April 8, 2022, issue of the Coastal Point, as well as on the Town website and bulletin board.

B. Mayor Belinko opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance 22-03. This ordinance is to request an amendment to the Town of Millville Code at Chapter 155, entitled "Zoning."

Synopsis: If approved, this ordinance will revise the C-1 Town Center Commercial District by removing hotels, motels, and bed-and-breakfasts as a permitted use, i.e., a use by right. Those uses remain permitted for the C-2 Town Commercial District. Additionally, a C-1 property can apply for a conditional use for them.

Mr. Andrew Lyons summarized the Town Code regarding commercial districts, hotels, or motels. Hotels and motels are suited to the C-2 commercial district which has the stated purpose of a well-planned, attractive large scale commercial and retail shopping facilities. A hotel - motel as defined by the Town of Millville code is a building structure operating for profit providing lodging food and or services to the transient traveling public that may include restaurants, ball rooms and meeting rooms, but the individual living unit shall not contain kitchen facilities. Hotels - motels would be more suitable for the more intensely developed district with larger scale and retail facilities, which would not always be

consistent and compatible with the intended use of the C-1 district. He went on to explain that they can still apply for conditional use because there may be properties that are suitable in the C-1 for size but with the amount of intensity that can be used, it is not suitable anywhere in the C-1 district. The request is also consistent with the Comprehensive Plan which states basically the same thing. Debbie Botchie noted that as found in the Comprehensive Plan under Chapter 11, Land Use, it never mentions hotels in the C-1 district and explains just what the purpose is, but it is mentioned in the C-2 district.

Seth Thompson, Esq. commented that the idea, as proposed, would eliminate hotel, motel and bed and breakfast as one of the permitted uses. He advised that Council could specify an effective date to any application received after April 25, 2022. To the date of its enactment, this ordinance shall not apply to any application received prior to that date. Mr. Thompson added that the conditional use process is available to anybody in a district where it is not a permitted use if it is not a prohibited use. Council is not adding hotels, motels and bed and breakfasts to the prohibited list, remaining eligible for a conditional use, even if this ordinance were to pass.

Mayor Belinko closed the Public Hearing.

C. Discuss, consider, and possible vote on Ordinance 22-03.

Council Member Wisgirda wanted to approve the Ordinance. Seth Thompson, Esq. clarified the suggested language for the proposed Ordinance as “this ordinance shall not apply to any application received prior to that date.” Mr. Thompson’s suggestion is to treat this as an amendment to the proposed motion and vote on the amendment first. Mr. Belinko and Mr. Wisgirda agreed.

Ms. Botchie wanted to know from Mr. Wisgirda if he wanted to remove bed and breakfast from the C-1 district or have it remain. He wants it to remain.

Council Member Wisgirda made a motion to amend Ordinance 22-03 to add a section that reads “this ordinance shall apply to any application received after April 26, 2022, the date of its enactment. This ordinance shall not apply to any applications received prior to that date.” The motion was seconded by Council Member Brienza.

Mayor Belinko asked for a roll call as follows:

Robert Wisgirda Yes

Sharon Brienza Yes

Ron Belinko No
Barbara Ryer Yes
Pete Michel Yes
The motion carried 4-1.

Council Member Brienza made the motion to amend the proposed Ordinance to remove the strike through of bed and breakfast so that would remain a permitted use. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ryer.

Mayor Belinko asked for a roll call as follows:

Robert Wisgirda Yes
Sharon Brienza Yes
Ron Belinko Yes
Barbara Ryer Yes
Pete Michel Yes

The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Council Member Brienza made the motion to approve the Ordinance as amended. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ryer.

Mayor Belinko asked for a roll call as follows:

Robert Wisgirda Yes
Sharon Brienza Yes
Ron Belinko Yes
Barbara Ryer Yes
Pete Michel Yes

The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

D. Discuss, consider, and possible vote on the number of stipends the Board of Elections should be paid for working at the Town Hall on March 5, 2022 - Election Day.

Ms. Botchie explained the process of volunteers for Election Day. She requested that the stipend for the Election Officers and Board of Elections should be \$125.00 for the entire day.

Mayor Ron Belinko made the motion to pay the Election Officers and Board of Elections a stipend of \$125.00 each. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ryer.

Mayor Belinko asked for a roll call as follows:

Robert Wisgirda Yes
Sharon Brienza Yes
Ron Belinko Yes
Barbara Ryer Yes

Pete Michel Yes
The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

E. Discuss, consider, and possible vote on Resolution 22-11. If this Resolution passes, the stipend for the Town Councilmembers will be increased from \$600.00 annually to \$800.00 annually.

Mayor Belinko wanted to point out that Council does not have an office so everything needs to be done at home. This raise is mostly to cover the incidentals/supplies needed for the job. Ms. Botchie supports this 100%, pointing out that Council has not had a raise in 15 years.

Council Member Ryer made the motion to pass Resolution 22-11. The motion was seconded by Council Member Pete Michel.

Mayor Belinko asked for a roll call as follows:

Robert Wisgirda Yes
Sharon Brienza Yes
Ron Belinko Yes
Barbara Ryer Yes
Pete Michel Yes

The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

4. Old Business

Discuss, consider, and possible vote on the FY23 Budget.

Council Member Ryer made the motion to pass FY23 Budget. The motion was seconded by Council Member Sharon Brienza.

Mayor Belinko asked for a roll call as follows:

Robert Wisgirda Yes
Sharon Brienza Yes
Ron Belinko Yes
Barbara Ryer Yes
Pete Michel Yes

The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

5. Citizens' Privilege: None.

6. Announcement of next meeting - May 10, 2022

7. Adjournment - 7:30 p.m.

Council Member Brienza motioned to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Ryer, to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Mardini
Town Clerk

NOTE: THE ABOVE AGENDA IS INTENDED TO BE FOLLOWED, BUT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGES, DELETIONS, ADDITIONS, AND MODIFICATIONS, AS PERMITTED UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE. COPIES MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TOWN HALL.